



CHANGES TO THE SAFE FOOD FOR CANADIAN LICENSE

Learn about the changes being made to the Safe Food for Canadian (SFC) License in 2024

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CHANGES TO THE SFC LICENSE

Presently, companies importing manufactured foods into Canada are obligated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to hold a valid Safe Food for Canadian (SFC) License. Historically, the CFIA manually verified these licenses, creating limitations in their ability to check the SFC license for each shipment.

This is set to change as the CFIA has issued a notice regarding food imports, notifying that as of **February 12, 2024**, the CFIA will activate the automatic verification of Safe Food for Canadians (SFC) licenses for imported foods via IID. Effective on this date, food import transactions that lack a valid SFC license for food will be rejected at the border.

To learn more about the changes please see the Canadian Food Inspection Agencies Website, Heading 2.2: [click here](https://inspection.canada.ca/food-licences/importing-food-with-a-valid-sfc-licence/eng/1608588974837/1608588975118) or use <https://inspection.canada.ca/food-licences/importing-food-with-a-valid-sfc-licence/eng/1608588974837/1608588975118>

OVERVIEW

To safeguard the health of Canadians, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) mandates that companies importing food into Canada must possess a Safe Food for Canadians (SFC) License.

The CFIA has disclosed upcoming changes to the entry regulations for shipments containing all foods, which will take effect on February 12, 2024.

To learn more about these please click here <https://dtsadvance.com/changes-to-the-sfc-license/>.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR IMPORTERS

It is essential to contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) before dispatching food products to Canada to confirm that all necessary documentation is in order and that the Safe Food for Canadians License can be obtained. Failure to comply may result in the rejection of the shipment at the border.

If your shipment is declined at the border for the reasons mentioned above, you will have to wait to obtain your SFC license if it is attainable. This process may take up to 15 days and result in additional storage fees. Alternatively, you may need to cover the expenses of re-exporting the container if the SFC license cannot be acquired.